



K8SCH

THE Q-FIVER



OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE OH-KY-IN AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY, INC.
PUBLISHED MONTHLY AT CINCINNATI, OHIO



Our 50th Year of Service to Cincinnati in Amateur Radio

A Special Service Club of the American Radio Relay League

(the national association for Amateur Radio)

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OH-KY-IN Repeaters

146.670 (-) Clifton 146.925 (-) Colerain Twp. 146.625 (-) Withamsville

PL tone of 123 Hz required for access as of 6-1-09

APRS: K8SCH-10 Edgewood WIDE, on 144.39

Web Page

Regular monthly meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM local time at the St. Bernard Recreation Hall (**NEW LOCATION!**), 120 Washington Ave. (corner Washington & Tower Aves) in St. Bernard, just east of Vine St. Visitors are ALWAYS welcome!

For membership information, contact

Nathan Ciufu KA3MTT, 6323 Cinnamon Ridge Dr, Burlington KY 41005, 859=586-2435,
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The Q-FIVER is the official newsletter of OH-KY-IN ARS, edited & published monthly by Susie Scott N8CGM 6351 Daleview Road 45247 513=385-5201 Editor

Electronic copies: PDF Creator

The Q-FIVER is mailed and e-mailed usually the Wednesday before the club meeting. Normal copy deadline is the weekend before that. Please send submissions for *The Q-FIVER* (including notice of upgrades & call sign changes) to Ye Ed Susie N8CGM. These may be:

- snail-mailed to or dropped off at 6351 Daleview Rd Cinti OH 45247
- telephoned to 513=385-5201 any time (answerer takes up to 4 min dictation)
- e-mailed to [n8cgm@arrl.net]



THE Q-FIVER

(kyoo fye ver) Q: A scale of amateur radio signal readability progressing from 1 (unreadable) to 5 (perfectly readable). "You're Q5" = "Your signal is perfectly readable." (ARRL Handbook, 52d ed. 1975)

April 2010 Volume 50 Number 4

April words from the Pres

They say April showers bring May flowers, another plus is we do not have to shovel the showers off our sidewalks & driveways! It's good to feel warm air and sunshine again, although I am certain winter will still take another swing at us.

I want to say a big thanks to Bob Frey WA6EZV & Dick Arnett WB4SUV for a great presentation & demo on ARDF and the details for the USA ARDF Championships. Plenty of volunteers, as well as competitors, are needed to help make this event a huge success. OH-KY-IN is a major sponsor of the event and your help will assist in showcasing our club to the country.

Contact Bob if you are interested in helping.

Early on in my business life, I was told an old adage, "Do what you always did and you'll get what you've always got". This can certainly be said for amateur radio clubs. We have seen many clubs suffer declining membership and attendance, we have even seen some clubs go completely away. While we as a club have been fortunate, the same *could* happen to us. We need to keep a variety of activities and programs going so we will be the club everyone looks to for the latest & greatest in ham radio. If there is an activity you would like to see the club be involved in, don't just sit back and hope it will happen, step up and *make* it happen. Like I have said in the past, if there is a facet of ham radio you would be interested in, I guarantee you that there is someone else who would like to do it also. I have said many times, you do not need to be an expert to get a group together to work on a project; all you need is some folks wanting to learn. The fun is in the discovery.

Everyone have a safe and fun April. See you on the air.

73, *Gary KB8MYC*

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Next meeting

Ladies & Gentlemen, Once again it is my duty to let you know what this month's (April 6th) presentation is.... This month we will hear from our own Brian DeYoung K4BRI about the interesting digital mode of PSK-31. I know this will be an interesting presentation.

See you all there.

73, *Brian KC8FJN*

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Oh-Ky-In club meeting minutes for Tuesday, March 5, 2010

Gary KB8MYC called the meeting to order at 7:41 PM @ St. Bernard Municipal Building (Rec. Center) preceded by the Pledge of Allegiance. Approx. 30 in attendance. *OhKyIn ARS QFiver April 2010 page 3*

Proceeded to self introductions.

New licenses and upgrades: Harry Riggs KM4CS upgraded to Extra. Congratulations!

Health & Welfare: Brian K4BRI got married. Congratulations!

Meeting program: ARDF/Orienteering presented by Bob Frey WA6EZV

No break.

Gary KB8MYC asked for corrections to the meeting minutes for January 2010 club meeting. There were no corrections.

Membership: Nathan KA3MTT not here but reported 92 members via email. Renew your club and ARRL membership thru Nathan. The club gets a kickback on this.

Treasurer: Bob KD8JRQ reported we have money. Audit committee not finished yet.

Silent key: Nothing new to report.

Technical Committee: Meeting at K4BRI's QTH Tuesday, March 9 @ 7:30 PM

Education committee: 1 Day Tech class at the Red Cross building Downtown Cincinnati Sat., 3/20. Exam session on Sat. 3/27. General classes held right here April 1, 8, 15 & 22. Exam session April 29.

Fundraising: Red, White & Blue Ash details will be released soon. We'll need volunteers to work a beer booth. Contact Bruce N8BV if you're interested.

Tech Talk: Wednesdays @ 9 PM. Dale KC8HQ5 is NCS for Wednesday, 3rd.

Field Day: Plans are being made.

Website: Classes & Exams info has been added. March calendar will be on soon.

Old Business: None

New Business: 50th Anniversary committee meeting Tuesday, March 16, 7:30 PM

The attendance prize winner was John Major KD8MMY, who was not present. He would have won \$25.

The attendance prize will roll to \$30 for April.

Split the pot was \$17 and was won by Bruce N8BV.

Eric KD8MEM moved to adjourn, Dave N8NUX seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted, *Dale KC8HQ5*, Recording Secretary

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Education Update

By the time the *Q-Fiver* makes its way to you, our spring one-day technician class will have completed. This class, as in the past, is in conjunction with QCEN. We will have a report on that class at the club meeting.

The spring general class begins April 1. You still have time to make it to that class (at least the last 3 of the 4 weeks). I would encourage all of you Technicians out there to consider upgrading. Brian, K4BRI, does a great job of making the material easy to understand. And with the sunspots hopefully beginning to come back, the HF bands will be getting better than ever.

Also, if you just need to take a test to upgrade, exams will be given on Thursday April 29 at 7:00 PM. The exams, along with the General class, will be held at the St. Bernard Community Center.

Keep an eye out for our ham basics workshop coming this summer, some great classes will be offered.

73 *Gazy KB8MYC*

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From a radio T-shirt advertised on Café Press: 73 has no S

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Radio's Plus
Joe Davidson
KB8SBN
11641 Colthar Dr.
Bethel OH 45106-9669
513=752-9570

Oh-Ky-In Spring Apparel Sale
ALL SHIRTS NOW \$10
(regardless of size)
Sizes available: L XL XXL XXXL
HATS NOW ALSO \$10
Available at club meetings or
call N8BV @ 513=251-1555

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Ohio Senate Bill 218 voted OUT of Committee, moves to the Senate Floor April 13

I am pleased to announce that Ohio Senate Bill 218 (Amateur radio antennae-codify federal restrictions on local zoning (aka "PRB-1" for Ohio)) had its fourth hearing on Tuesday, March 23, 2010, and was voted unanimously **out** of the State and Local Governments and Veterans Affairs Committee. Both I and State Government Liaison Nick Pittner K8NAP were present, and worked with Committee members to ensure its vote and passage. The Bill is now on its way to the Senate Floor, and is scheduled for a vote of the entire Senate on April 13. Once it clears the Senate floor, it will then travel to the Ohio House of Representatives for their vote. Since both House Bill 212 and Senate Bill 218 have the same wording, it should pass through and hopefully go to the Governor for signature soon!

Now is the time to contact your local State Senators and Representatives and ask for their vote of support on this important piece of legislation for Amateur Radio in Ohio. As always, as the Bill progresses its way through the hurdles of the Statehouse, I will keep you informed of its progress.

73, *Frank J. Pipez KJ8GW* Section Manager














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Glitch Delays Launch of New ARRL Web Site

The ARRL's launch of a new Web site has been delayed following problems that appeared as the huge computer programs were being transferred to their main Web server. Normally the Web site connects ham radio operators around the world, dynamically presenting the services that ARRL offers the ham radio community at www.arrl.org. "When we tried to switch over to the new Web site on Wednesday, we encountered unanticipated technical issues during the process of transferring to the new Web site," said ARRL Chief Operating Officer Harold Kramer WJ1B. "It appears that with all of the new technology and vast simultaneous hits to the site, the code had problems keeping up. We are working to fix the issues and should be online very soon. We have temporarily switched back to the old Web site until these issues are resolved. Obviously, we are trying to complete this transfer as quickly as possible and we will keep you informed of our progress."



DX Spots – April 2010 de KA3MTT

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 3C0- Annobon Isl NOT!! See article below	2 Good Friday	3 YI9PSE- Iraq thru 4-11 
4 Easter	5 LX9FC- Luxembourg thru 4-13 	6 MJ- Jersey thru 4-9 FW-Wallis & Futuna thru 4-12 	7	8 TF- Iceland thru 4-17 	9 FR- Reunion thru 4-17 	10 3W6C- Vietnam thru 4-18 
11 V63DX- Micronesia thru 4-17 	12	13 T2- Tuvalu thru 4-21 	14 BW- Taiwan thru 4-19 	15	16	17
18 TO2R- Reunion thru 5-2 	19	20	21	22	23 3D2 – Fiji thru 4-26 	24
25 FM- Martinique thru 5-6 	26	27 TS8P- Tunisia thru 5-4 	28	29	30 ZS8M- Marion Isl thru 4-2011	

On the air: 3C0C Annobon Island operation delayed

On the air -- or maybe off the air is a better term for this. Word that the long awaited 3C0C operation from Annobon Island has suffered a setback due to repairs being made to the islands lone airport runway.

On March 12 the ham radio operations planners announced that they had received a statement from Equatorial Guinea informing them that repairs to the runway will begin shortly and are expected to last two to three months. During that time no aircraft can land on or depart from Annobon.

DXpedition planners say that travel by boat is not a reality due to the small number of available water craft and the time it would take. For more details and updates please visit www.3c0c-annobon.com on the World Wide Web. (3C0C) *Amateur Radio Newsline #1701*, March 19, 2010

OPERATIONS APPROVED FOR DXCC CREDIT. The following operations are approved for DXCC Credit: Tunisia 3V3S, 2009 operation; Angola D2CQ, current operation. *ARLD009 DX News*, March 4, 2010

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Contests

April 2010

- 1 Lighthouse Spring Lites QSO Party
- 2-4 SP DX contest, SSB & CW; EA RTTY Contest; LZ Open 40 m Contest, CW; MO QSO Party; Low Power Spring Sprint
- 9-11 QCWA Spring QSO Party; MT QSO Party; GA QSO Party; PSK 31 Flavors Contest; EU Spring Sprints, CW; JA International DX Contest, CW; Yuri Gagarin DX Contest, CW; International Vintage Contest, SSB & CW (& AM I suppose!); VHF Spring Sprints
- 14 CW Ops Test
- 16-18 Holyland Contest, all modes; TARA Skirmish Digital Prefix contest; MI QSO Party; ONT QSO Party; YU DX Contest, CW; EU Spring Sprints, SSB; EU EME contest; VHF Spring Sprints
- 18 ARRL Rookie Roundup- remember your first Novice Roundup?? Greet a newcomer
- 23-25 10-10 Spring CW contest; QRP to the Field, CW; NB QSO Party; FL QSO Party; WSJT Sprint, all modes; VHF Spring Sprints; SP DX RTTY Contest; EU EME contest

April is the cruelest month?? Not for contesters. For more information see *QST*, *CQ*, or www.arrl.org

73, *Dan KJ4AV*

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Ohio Section News for March 2010 (updated a bit for April by *Ye Ed*, also shrunk for more space)

From the Section Manager's desk:

Ohio Section Conference to be held on Saturday, Oct 16, 2010 – will include Ohio Section EMCOMM Conference

In the past, the Ohio Section has held 2 conferences each year; the Ohio Section ARES conference in the spring, and the General Ohio Section Conference in the fall. At the Ohio Section Conference last year we discussed the idea of combining the conferences into one major conference. This year we're going to give it a try. The Ohio Section and ARES Conference will be held on Saturday, October 16, 2010. The Conference venue will be the Educational Services Center for Central Ohio (ESCCO), which is located on 2080 City-gate Drive in Columbus. Those who attended the conference last fall can tell you what a great facility we had to work with, and I'm glad to say we will be there again.

The Conference is being coordinated by a great committee, headed by Scott Yonally N8SY. They are working hard to line up speakers, programs and refreshments for the attendees. It proves to be a great time, and you'll start to see announcements coming out for speakers in a few days. So, mark your calendars and pass the word!

Ohio Senate Bill 218 voted OUT of Committee, moves to the Senate Floor April 13 (story on pg 5)

Ron Griffin N8AEH retires from Ohio Section Cabinet

Ron Griffin N8AEH of Findlay, Assistant Section Manager for NW Ohio, has announced his retirement from the Ohio Section Cabinet, so he may give more time to his Mother. Ron has worked under 4 Section Managers, and has been the

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publisher of the *Ohio Section Journal* for many years. We hate to see Ron retire, but fully understand the reasons why this decision has come about.

The Spring issue of the *OSJ* will be published on schedule with the help of the Ohio Section Cabinet. A new publisher will be announced before the Summer issue is sent out.

March was Severe Weather Month, statewide Tornado Drill was March 24

Remember to send your club newsletters to Emily Wells KC8RAL, Section PIO

Emily KC8RAL is on the *Q-Fiver* PDF distribution list – *Ye Ed*.

That's all from my desk for now... 73 de *Frank KJ8GW* / Ohio Section Manager

Ohio Section notes from interim Affiliated Club Coordinator Scott Yonally N8SY (for ACC Joanne Solak KJ3O):

Hi All,

February snip 8<...

News of Larry and Joanne.. I have spoken to both of them and they are doing just fine. Larry told me that they just need the weather to get better before the contractor will start the de-construction /re-construction project on their house. The home that burnt was an old Post and Beam style house that was built back in the 1830s, and they want to try to save as much of the old lumber from that house as they can. Please continue to keep them in your daily prayers. (*Scott told Ye Q-Fiver Ed that the Solaks are staying in a trailer on their property for the time being – landline number for the burnt house is connected.*)

Joanne has asked me to keep reminding the new Club Officers, and those who remained in office, to make sure you file the ANNUAL REPORT FORM as soon after your first meeting of the year as possible. There are many times that Joanne and/or the League Headquarters would need to notify your club of some information pertaining to your membership. Without the club updates this is next to impossible. In this day and age of the internet, and the many ARRL forms available online, there's just no excuse **not** to file this particular form.

I made mention last month that I had noticed reading through a great number of newsletters that were already making plans for Field Day. Please remember to personally invite your government representatives to this event. This is not only a contest between clubs for points, but it is a very big PR event for the general public as well. This year Field Day will be held on June 26 and 27. A lot of clubs make this weekend a fun, family event with a picnic or two for all. Field Day is designed to be just that, fun, but don't forget it has a serious side too. It's not just the picnics or the points; its main function is to show the general public what we are all about, communications. No ifs, ands or buts about it. We are a service that provides communications when all else fails!

Now onto a similar event, the OSPOTA, you know 'Ohio State Parks on the Air Event. This year it will be September 11. Contact your local Ohio State Parks Ranger for information on this fun event!

The Mansfield Mid*Winter Hamfest has come and gone with great success. Everyone that attended the League night dinner the night before had good food and fun for all. Sunday brought on two very good forums, ARRL and OSSBN. Everyone there was a part of the forum. A number of great ideas sprang out of these forums and the Section Cabinet is working hard to get them actively in place.

The Delaware County (DELARA) club had a nice article in their newsletter about the FT-102 Yaesu radio. It brought back some memories I had with mine. That also brings to mind something, do you want to easily remember how to spell Yaesu? Just remember that it has AES in the middle of it. AES -- Amateur Electronics Supply!

The Lake Erie (LEARA) club had a guest speaker Bill Fraedrich WB9LBI give a talk on the "Entire History of Morse Code -- That I could steal off the Internet." Now there's some originality for ya!

The Alliance Amateur Radio Club's *Zero Beat* is reporting this (*last?*) month that you can now follow the club on Facebook. They turned it on just a few weeks ago and already have over 20 members logged on and following all the neat stuff that the club is doing. They also announced a Fox Hunt coming up.

The TMRA (Toledo Mobile Radio Association) reported in their latest newsletter that the Bennett Venture Academy got to talk with ISS Crew . They made contact via ham radio with Flight Engineer Robert Thrisk.

ARISS Mentor and control operator Steve KB9UPS and members of TMRA set up ham equipment on Saturday at the school. The twin high gain antennas proved to be a challenge to set up on the school's hipped roof. Also set up were the back up antennas and a UHF link beam used to connect to Chris's IRLP node at his home and linked with the discovery reflector on the web via the IRLP 9010 node. Audio was sent into the AMSAT conference node

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"Echolink" via a Skype connection to Graham Layton G7EVY in the United Kingdom. Attendance on Friday totaled nearly 800 students, staff, parents and media. Media on hand included Toledo's WTOL TV 11, and TV 24. Both stations aired very good spots showing how ham radio can influence students in science, math and technology on the 5 o'clock news Friday night.

Remember to volunteer to help out wherever you can in your Club. Club leaders need volunteers to achieve the ultimate goals set for their club. And don't forget to pay your membership dues. Support your Club. AND, while you're at it, pay your ARRL dues through your club!

73, *Scott N8SY* (Interim ACC -- Ohio)

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Weaver's words -- Happy Passover and Easter [Reply to k8je@arrl.org] *sorry, had to shrink Words for roomYE*

- New MOU between Red Cross and ARRL is Signed
- Ohio OO Clearly a Good Guy
- Kentucky Initiates Digital Net
- Outline of Division Convention Revised
- Thanks for the Letters
- Will you be a Flea Marketer at Dayton?
- Tentative Schedule (*cropped for space - Ye Ed*)
- Michigan QSO Party in April
- WA8EFK named ECAC Chairman
- VHF Conference in Division this Year
- Division Awards Process Updated; Criteria Refined
- Do I have Cards at the Bureau?
- A Request

+++ **New MOU between Red Cross and ARRL is Signed** +++

ARRL President Kay Craigie N3KN and Joseph C. Becker, Senior Vice President, Disaster Services for the American National Red Cross (ANRC) signed the new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the two organizations on March 25 in Washington, DC. The ceremony took place at ANRC Headquarters.

Two features of the new MOU that were not included in previous memoranda are clauses regarding background checks and the status of amateurs as RC volunteers. The new MOU allows amateurs to have criminal background checks performed by certain agencies other than *Mybackgroundcheck.com*. It also clarifies that amateurs who provide communication services to RC do not need to become RC "volunteers."

The latter clarification permits hams to support RC communication activities without being subjected to certain requirements of RC volunteers.

This new MOU replaces one that expired in 2007 and is the result of considerable discussion between ARRL and RC.

The new MOU can be read in its entirety at http://www.arrl.org/news/files/ARRL-ARC_MoU.pdf.

+++ **WA8EFK named ECAC Chairman** +++

Last month I was pleased to announce the appointment of Michigan SM Dale Williams WA8EFK as the Great Lakes Division representative on the new ARRL Emergency Communications Advisory Committee (ECAC). This month it is my great pleasure to announce that Dale has accepted ARRL President Kay Craigie's, N3KN appointment to chair this committee.

Congratulations and thanks, again, Dale. I will add a great thank you to Judy, Dale's wife, for her willingness to share her husband with Amateur Radio.

+++ **Michigan QSO Party in April** +++

The 2010 Michigan QSO Party (MiQP) will be April 17-18. All amateurs are invited to participate. As usual, Michigan amateurs receive contest points for contacting other amateurs within the state/section.

Amateurs outside of Michigan earn contest points for QSOs with Michigan hams, only. As the announcement of the Party says, "This is a great opportunity to develop HF operating skills, represent the great state of Michigan, and last but not least, have a bunch of fun. Even if you don't consider yourself a contest operator, you'll probably find it's a blast to jump in to work the throng who will be looking for Michigan QSOs. If you've ever operated on Field Day, you'll certainly be ready for MiQP."

The operating period is twelve hours long, from noon local time (1600Z) until midnight local (0400Z) Eastern time.

"Activity takes place on the 80 thru 10 meter bands, on both phone and CW. The exchange is simple: a sequential QSO number (starting with 1, then 2, 3...) and your location (county for Michigan stations, and state, province or "DX" for others). A station may be worked once per band and mode, with CW QSOs counting two points and phone QSOs counting one point (just like Field Day). Multipliers are states, provinces, and Michigan counties, counted once on phone and once on CW. Final score is total QSO points times total multipliers."

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There are handsome plaques for major category winners in Michigan and certificates for the top single-operator score in each Michigan county. There is a competition for Michigan clubs where scores of its members are combined into an aggregate score for that club. There are also categories and awards for mobile and multi-operator stations.

"The separate category instituted in 2008 for Emergency Operation Center (EOC) stations has become a permanent part of MiQP, and continues in 2010. A handsome MiQP plaque will be awarded to the highest scoring EOC station and certificates for second and third place. We are also continuing the 'MiQP Rookie Of The Year' plaque instituted in 2007, which is awarded to the top single-operator score submitted by a Michigan station who has never participated in MiQP before."

See <http://www.miqp.org> for complete rules and further information. The MiQP is sponsored by the Mad River Radio Club.

+++ **Ohio OO Clearly a Good Guy** +++

"After receiving a call about a transmitter stuck on 10 meters, an Ohio OO was able to help the family of a SK who had just passed away during the night. Not knowing what to do after seeing his equipment still on, a family member finally asked on the air if anyone was hearing them and that they needed help closing down the station. The OO was able to locate the QTH since the family member gave the ham's call sign after seeing it on his desk. After arriving, he learned the story and was asked to later contact this amateur's friends to pass on the news. A rather unique service provided by an OO." (From the ARRL *February OO Summary*)

+++ **Kentucky Initiates Digital Net** +++

Kentucky Section Emergency Coordinator Ken Garrett N4KLG announced the activation of a digital net in the Commonwealth. The Kentucky Digital Net (KDN) operates each Wednesday on 3.585 MHz (+/- QRM) at 7 PM (EDT). The mode used is PSK-31. Using USB the transmission is 1 KHz above the frequency shown on the dial. All amateurs are invited to participate in the net. Contact Net Manager Joe Leitsch K4DMU <joe@iglou.com> or SEC Ken Garrett <sec@kyham.net> for additional information.

+++ **VHF Conference in Division this Year** +++

The Southeastern VHF Society (SEVHFS) is holding its 14th annual Conference at Morehead State University in Morehead KY on April 23-24. This is an excellent conference. Information is available at <http://www.svhfs.org/conference.html>.

Conference activities will be at the University's new Space Science Center. Guided tours will be given of the Center's 21 meter radio telescope facility. Other features of the Conference include testing of home-brew antennas on an antenna range, a Friday evening flea market, presentations on a variety of topics related to UHF and VHF operating on Saturday and a Saturday evening banquet.

+++ **Outline of Division Conventions Revised** +++

The outline of Division conventions has been one topic discussed during recent teleconferences. The goal of the discussions has been to make the conventions easier for members to attend, to have the sessions draw a larger audience, and to create timely, relevant and interesting seminars. We would like the input of clubs and individuals concerning the following general outline for future conventions.

Future conventions:

- Would be held concurrent with hamfests/swaps in this Division (Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio).
- Would be sponsored by the host hamfest.
- Would consist of a series of seminars that would last the duration of the hamfest.
- Would include, when practical, an informal group dinner the evening before.
- Would occur once each year and would rotate through the three sections in the Division.

Host hamfests/swaps would be requested to arrange:

- For one or two rooms suitable for the seminars.
- For a suitable restaurant for any evening-before dinner when appropriate.
- For publicity about the Convention to be included with hamfest publicity.

The Division would arrange:

- For the seminars. The hamfest committee would participate in arranging the seminars if it desires.
- For Division awards that will be given at the dinner or during a seminar.
- For a keynote speaker if appropriate.

Host hamfests/swaps will not be expected to incur expense related to the convention.

It is planned that this revised outline for Division conventions will take effect in 2010. Clubs interested in discussing the possibility of hosting a Convention are requested to contact me at <k8je@arrl.org>.

+++ **Division Awards Process Updated; Criteria Refined** +++

The process for giving Great Lakes Division awards as well as the criteria for these awards have been reviewed by the Division Cabinet. During this process, the operation of the awards committee has been outlined, and the criteria for determining the winner of our awards have been tweaked. Five awards are available from the Division at each Division Convention. These are the George S. Wilson III W4OYI Lifetime Achievement Award, the Great Lakes Division Amateur of the Year Award, the Technical Achievement Award, the DX Achievement Award, the Amateur Radio Youth Award and the Joseph J. Phillips K8QOE Newsletter Award.

+++ **Thanks for the Letters** +++

I thank each member who sent Faxes and letters in support of Senate Bill S. 1755 in the US House of Representatives.

+++ **Do I have Cards at the Bureau?** +++

"Do I have cards at the QSL Bureau?" is a frequent question. The answer to this question is quite simple. Know who your QSL letter manager is and be sure to have envelopes and postage on file with him or her. If this is done, QSLs received from overseas will automatically be sent to you.

This being said, people who expect they may receive cards from DX stations should read the information at the web site for the correct Incoming QSL Bureau. The correct Bureau is determined by the number in your call sign. If you are KD3NEW, your QSL Bureau is the Third Area Bureau regardless of the FCC call area in which you live. Similarly, the QSL bureau for K4ZLE is the Fourth Area bureau even though Jay lives in the Eighth Area and is the Manager of the Eighth Area bureau. With my call, K8JE, my cards come via the 8th Area bureau. As a result most amateurs in Michigan and Ohio will use the 8th Area bureau and most amateurs in Kentucky will use the 4th Area bureau.

The first thing to remember is to become familiar with the procedures used by the QSL Bureau that services you. Read the information at its web site.

The second thing to do is to realize you cannot receive cards from your bureau unless you have envelopes and postage on file with your "letter manager." Your letter manager is the ham who volunteers his or her time to sort cards according to the first letter of the suffix of the call sign. You can learn who this is at the Bureau web site.

A third thing to remember is that the letter sorter is not a mind reader. If you put postage stamps on the envelope it is logical for the sorter to think you want to have the card and QSLs sent to you only after you have enough cards to use up the amount of postage you've put on the envelope. For example, only a very active DXer would put \$5 worth of postage on an envelope of he expects the envelope to be sent back to him in a month. Talk with your letter sorter to let him know how often you want cards mailed to you and how he wants you to submit envelopes and postage to him.

After you've done these things, sit back, work DX, wait for the cards to come back and enjoy Amateur Radio. Remember it often takes over two years (or longer) for DX stations to send reply QSLs. No one has ever claimed the Bureau works with great speed. For this, look forward to the day when Logbook of the World is used by nearly all DXers worldwide.

Links to all Incoming QSL Bureaus can be found at <http://www.arrl.org/qs/qsline.html>.

+++ **Will you be a Flea Marketer at Dayton?** +++

If you plan to Flea Market at the coming Dayton Hamvention™ you may be interested in this offer. Bob Reiff WA8ULW of Mason, OH has arranged to make rigid, 8'x8'x12' watertight, portable storage units available to Hamvention-going amateurs at the cost of delivery and pick-up. The roll-up doors on these units can be locked to protect goodies in them. The units will be delivered to and picked up from the flea market area. Contact Bob at <wa8ulw@arrl.net> for details.

+++ **My apologies** +++

Occasionally I receive invitations to join a member in a Facebook or other social networking system. I greatly appreciate these invitations, but have so far not accepted any of them *snip*>8Please understand that I am still very eager to hear from anyone and to learn of problems, dissatisfactions and ideas, but I'd like to limit this to using e-mail, webinar, teleconference, US mail, the telephone ... and Amateur Radio. Thanks.

+++ **Tentative Travel, Hamfest and Activity Schedule** +++

Hamfests in the following list have received ARRL sanctioning as of press time. Hamfests and other events for which

a Great Lakes Division representative is scheduled to attend are identified with the representative's name. The schedule can be expected to be fine-tuned in the future.

Patronize ARRL-sanctioned hamfests. Hamfests, conventions, symposia and similar events sponsored by ARRL-affiliated clubs may be eligible to be sanctioned by the League. For information, see

<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/hamfests/Sponsors>. Please have your event sanctioned soon.

Support our Division hamfests and swaps: (*there are more, but Ye Ed had to reduce the list for space*)

3 Apr: ARGYL Hamfest, Lowell, MI; Lincoln Trail Hamfest, Elizabethtown, KY

10 Apr: JCARC Hamfest, Radio Show, Jackson, OH

17 Apr: Milford Swap & Shop, Highland, MI

18 Apr: Cuyahoga Falls Hamfest, Cuyahoga Falls, OH

22 Apr: Summit Co. ARES Mtg, Akron, OH - presentation, Jim

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23-24 Apr: Southeastern VHF Soc. Conf., Morehead, KY

24 Apr: River Cities ARA Tail-Gate 'fest, Ashland, KY

25 Apr: Athens Hamfest, Athens, OH

26 Apr: Livonia (MI) ARC meeting - presentation, Jim

27 Apr: Cherryland ARC (Traverse City, MI) meeting - presentation, Jim

28 Apr: Directors webinar - Jim

1 May: Louisa Hamfest, Louisa, KY - Jim, John; Cadillac Hamfest, Cadillac, MI

5 May: A&F Committee meeting, Newington, CT - Jim

14-16 May: Hamvention^R, Dayton, OH - Gary, Jim, John

26 May: Directors webinar - Jim

5 Jun: IRA Hamfest, Hudsonville, MI; Mid-Ohio Valley ARC Drive-In 'fest, Gallipolis, OH; Fulton Co.

ARC Hamfest, Tedrow, OH; Carter Co. Hamfest, Olive Hill, KY - Jim, John

6 Jun: Chelsea Swap & Shop, Chelsea, MI

11 Jun: Central MI ARC meeting, Lansing, MI - presentation, Jim

19 Jun: Milford Hamfest, Milford, OH - Jim, John; Midland Hamfest, Midland, MI

20 Jun: Monroe Hamfest, Monroe, MI -- Jim, John

23 Jun: Directors webinar - Jim

8 Jul: Mahoning Valley ARA, presentation -- Jim

15 Jul: A&F Committee, Newington, CT - Jim

16-17 Jul: Board of Directors, Windsor, CT -- Gary, Jim

17 Jul: NOARSFEST, Elyria, OH

18 Jul: Van Wert ARC Hamfest, Van Wert, OH

25 Jul: Portage Hamfair, Randolph, OH

28 Jul: Directors webinar - Jim ...snip >8 (*you should be able to see Aug onward next time - Ye Ed*)

73, *Jim Weaver K8JE*, Director ARRL Great Lakes Division

5065 Bethany Rd. Mason OH 45040 E-mail: <k8je@arrl.org>, Tel.: 513=459-1661

ARRL - The national association for Amateur Radio

Hamfests &c.

April 2010

18 5th Annual N Central IN Hamfest at Miami Co 4-H Fairgrounds, Miami Co Rd 200N (Mexico Rd), Peru IN. Sponsored by Cass, Grant & Miami Co & Kokomo ARCs. 7 AM-2PM. Dealers, fleas, handicapped access, refreshments, tailgating, VE exams 8-10 AM (free fest admission with successful acquisition of licence or upgrade). \$5 door, 17 & under free. Talk-in: 147:345. Info: Robbie Robinson W9RSR, 765=985-2811; <w9rsr@comcast.net>, www.nci-hamfest.net

18 56th Annual Cuyahoga Falls OH Hamfest at Emidio & Sons Party Ctr, 48 E. Bath Rd. Sponsored by Cuyahoga Falls ARC. 8AM-1:30PM. Hamfest, Electronics & ComputerShow with handicapped access & refreshments. \$6. Talk-in: 147.27. Info: Ted Sarah W8TTS, 330=688-2013, <w8tts@w8tts.com>, www.cfarc.org/hamfest2010.html

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24 Ashland KY Hamfest at Ntl City (now PNC) Bank parking lot, 1000 Carter Ave. Sponsored by River Cities ARA. 8AM-1:30 PM. Dealers, fleas, handicapped access, refreshments, tailgating, VE exams, pre-registry highly encouraged. \$3. Talk-in: 146.94. Info: Scott Jacobs NZ4AA, 606=831-7763, <ki4gsf@yahoo.com>, www.qsl.net/kg4dve/

25 31st Annual Athens OH Hamfest at Athens Community Ctr, 701 E. State St. Dealers, fleas, handicapped access, refreshments, VE exams; register at 9 AM, exams ASAP afterward. \$5, unlicensed spouses free.. Talk-in: 145.15. Info: Drew McDaniel W8MHV, 740=592-2106, <dmcDaniel1@ohio.edu>, ac-ara.org

May 1 Louisa KY Hamfest at Louisa Sr Citizens Bldg on Pike St. Sponsored by Big Sandy ARC. 8 AM-12 Noon. Dealers, fleas, handicapped access, refreshments, tailgating, VE exams 10 AM. \$4. Talk-in: 147.39. Info: Fred Jones, WA4SWF, 606=483-1109, <wa4swf@arrl.net>, www.bsarc.org

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VE exam opportunities

April 2010

1st Sat each month: Cincinnati-Hartwell OH, sponsored by GCARA, at Hartwell Presbyterian Church. Register 8:30 AM; walk-ins only! All licence classes. Info: Dale Pritchett KC8HJL, 513=769-0789.

2d Mon each month: Edgewood KY, sponsored by NKARA, at Hilltop Church of Christ, 5300 Taylor Mill Rd., Taylor Mill KY 41015. Park in back, pls enter thru basement. Pre-registration preferred, walk-ins accepted as space permits. Info: Lyle Hamilton AB8SH, 513=315-4032. Talk-in 147.255

2d Thu each month except March & December: Milford OH, sponsored by Milford ARC at Faith Church, 5910 Price Rd. Register 6 PM. Walk-ins OK. No exam fees at Milford; theirs are from Laurel. Info: Barb Steward KA8AXY, 513=625-8651, <wsteward@fuse.net>.

2d Saturday odd months except July: Hamilton (Butler Co), Butler Co VHF Assn at D Russell Lee Joint Vocational School Communications Ctr, 3603 Hamilton-Middletown Rd (Rt 4). Registration 8:30 AM, exams at 9 AM; walk-ins OK. All licence classes. Info: Ted Wilson K8TCR, 513=868-7012, <twk8tcr@fuse.net >. Talk-in 146.97

Wed, Apr 21, 6:30 PM: An examination session for all classes of Amateur Radio Operator's License will be conducted in the Verity Lodge Miami University-Middletown, Middletown, OH. Doors will open for registration at 6 PM. Please plan to arrive early as all registration activities **must** be completed by 7 PM.

Thu Apr 29, 7 PM: sponsored by Oh-Ky-In ARS at St Bernard Community Ctr Recreation Hall, 120 Washington Ave (corner Washington & Tower, just east of Vine St). Walk-ins OK. Info: Brian deYoung K4BRI, 859=635-3095

In all cases, tests require 2 IDs (preferably at least one with photo). Bring with you the original, as well as photocopies of current licence & CSCEs. \$15 is current ARRL/VEC exam fee where applicable; exact change, check or money order appreciated.

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Greetings!

Now that the snow is gone, the grass is getting green and Spring is here, it's time to think **Field Day!** We have started working the details for this year's event and will be looking for help. Tentative planning has us doing pretty much the same we did last year except we will return to putting up a mast and beam for the sideband station.

We'll be setting up teams with leaders as indicated (just a start):

CW station- Nathan KA3MTT Lead

GOTA (Get on the Air) station

SSB Station- Dick WB4SUV Lead

6M Station- John KC8VQU Lead

Saturday Picnic- John KC8VQU Lead

Ice/Gas Runs, etc etc.

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We will be looking for volunteers and will also start working on the sign up sheets for operating those stations.

As always, Field Day is a learning event. If you have never operated a contest before, this is a great opportunity and the more seasoned operators never hesitate to mentor.

Also, if there is anything you would like to see us do this year, maybe something new, or any suggestions, don't hesitate to bring it to our attention- we're flexible!

Anyone wishing to help, for info, or for suggestions, please contact me and we'll get the ball rolling.

Thanks! *Eric N8YC* Field Day Chair *OhKyIn ARS QFivez April 2010 page 14*

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What's coming in April

Thu Apr 1 April Fool's Day
7:00 PM General Class begins at St. Bernard Recr Hall, 120 E Washington, St Bernard

Fri Apr 2 Good Friday
8:00 PM Amateur Radio Public Svc Corps, Hamilton Co Communications Ofc Conference Rm, 2377 Civic Ctr Dr – park in Bd of Educ lot

Sun Apr 4 Easter
7:00 PM CW Training Net on 146.925 repeater

Tue Apr 6 7:30 PM Club Meeting at St. Bernard Recr Hall, 120 E Washington, St Bernard
Program: Club member Brian deYoung K4BRI on PSK-31

Wed Apr 7 9:00 PM Tech Talk on 146.925, NCS Dale KC8HQS

Thu Apr 8 7:00 PM General Class at St. Bernard Recr Hall, 120 E Washington, St Bernard

Sat Apr 10 10:00 AM Monthly Oh-Ky-In Fox Hunt, hounds gather at Mt Storm Park; talk-in to start on 146.67

Sun Apr 11 7:00 PM CW Training Net on 146.925 repeater

Wed Apr 14 9:00 PM Tech Talk on 146.925, NCS Brian K4BRI

Thu Apr 15 7:00 PM General Class at St. Bernard Recr Hall, 120 E Washington, St Bernard

Fri Apr 16 8:00 PM Queen City Emergency Net, Red Cross HQ, 820 Sycamore St

Sun Apr 18 7:00 PM CW Training Net on 146.925 repeater

Wed Apr 21 9:00 PM Tech Talk 146.925, NCS Dennis KB8ROA

Thu Apr 22 Earth Day
7:00 PM General Class at St. Bernard Recr Hall, 120 E Washington, St Bernard

Sun Apr 25 7:00 PM CW Training Net on 146.925 repeater

Tue Apr 27 7:30 PM Board of Directors' meeting, location varies

Wed Apr 28 9:00 PM Tech Talk 146.925, NCS Brian KC8FJN

Thu Apr 29 7:00 PM VE exams at St. Bernard Recr Hall, 120 E Washington, St Bernard

Fri Apr 30 Ntl Arbor Day

Tue May 4 7:30 PM Club Meeting at St. Bernard Recr Hall, 120 E Washington, St Bernard
Program: to be announced

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The human race has one really effective weapon, and that is **laughter**.

-- Mark Twain

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